(b) if so, what has been the outcome thereof; and

(c) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) No Sir. At the Sub-Commission-IV meeting held in Islamabad in February 1986, the Pakistan Government stated that the matter was under their active consideration.

(c) We have seen a recent statement made by the Prime Minister of Pakistan to the effect that they have decided to re-open the Khokrapar route out of respect for public demands and convenience.

Pollution problem posed by Kota unit of Shriram Fertilisers

379. SHRI DULESHWAR MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kota unit of Shriram Fertilisers has accumulated over a half million tonnes of lime sludge as a by-product at the factory complex which is posing a pollution problem; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b) According to the State Pollution Control Board, the lime sludge is stored in the factory premises with necessary precautionary measures to prevent pollution Steps have also been taken for use of the lime sludge by installation of a Cement Plant.

Talks for treaty of friendship between India and Pakistan

380. SHRI DULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the outcome of the last round of talks held between Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan at Rawalpindi to resolve the differences over preparing a single comprehensive draft treaty of mutual friendship; and

(b) the stage at which the matter stands at present and when will the talks be resumed next?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Discussions on the comprehensive treaty of peace and fiendship were resumed during the Foreign Secretary's visit to Pakistan from January 16 to 21, 1986. These discussions continuing as differences persist on some important aspects of the proposed treaty.

Repatriation of Tamilian tea-plantation workers from Sri Lanka

381. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Tamils of Indian origin working in tea plantation estates in Sri Lanka who were to be repatriated to India under the Srimavo-Shashtri Pact of 1964 and how many of them have since been repatriated;

(b) whether according to the changed policy of Government, the repatriation of these workers has now been linked with the repatriation of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees in the country; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Sri Lankan Government in this regard and how does it reflects on the Indo-Sri Lankan tied and the Tamilians issue as a whole?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Under the Srimavo-Shastri Pact of 1964, India had agreed to grant citizenship to and repatriate 525,000 persons along with their natural increase. (A subsequent agreement of 1974 added 75,000 more accountable persons to the earlier commitment).

As on 31-10-85 a total of 337,089 accountable persons had been repatriated to India.